AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ A sealing joint comprising an external metal casing (1) and a flexible internal structure, characterised in that the internal structure is made of flexible strips (8, 8a, 8b, 8c, 8d), overlaid and separated by supports (9, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d), the supports located on either side of the strips being staggered, wherein the supports comprise blocks which are laid out in rows such that each block occupies every other space between the strips and in a direction perpendicular to the rows and wherein the blocks are present at every second row.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that some of the supports, which ~~touch the casing~~ belong to a pair of layers nearest to the casing, extend under [[the]] projections (6) positioned on an external surface of the casing.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 2, characterised in that the supports and the projections are linear.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the flexible strips are distinct, with a closed outline.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the flexible strips are homogeneous and separated by intermediary blocks which [[act as]] are the supports.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 5~~, characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising rings each of which [[bears]] are the blocks located between a respective pair of flexible strips.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in ~~any one of claims 5 or 6~~ claim 5, characterised in that the flexible strips are made in metal, ceramic or alloy with oxide dispersion.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ A sealing joint ~~set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the flexible strips are corrugated, the contact between pairs of waves creating the supports~~ comprising an external metal casing having a flexible internal structure made of flexible, corrugated flexible strips, the strips contacting at support points located on either side of the strip being staggered.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the supports are laid out in successive rows crossing the joint through two support surfaces opposite the casing, the supports and [[the]] spaces separating the flexible strips alternating in each row and from one row to another.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the flexible [[joints]] strips are concentric.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the flexible strips are circular and flat.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the supports radiate.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): ~~Sealing~~ The sealing joint set forth in claim 1, characterised in that the supports are concentric rings with differing radii.

Claim 14 (New): The sealing joint set forth in claim 8, comprising supports which are laid out in successive rows crossing the joint through two support surfaces opposite the casing, the supports and spaces separating the flexible strips alternating in each row and from one row to another.

Claim 15 (New): The sealing joint set forth in claim 8, characterised in that the flexible strips are concentric.

Claim 16 (New): The sealing joint set forth in claim 8, characterised in that the flexible strips are circular and flat.

Claim 17 (New): The sealing joint set forth in claim 14, characterised in that the supports radiate.

Claim 18 (New): The sealing joint set forth in claim 14, characterised in that the supports are concentric rings with differing radii.